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General and complete disarmament

Reducing nuclear danger

Nuclear disarmament

Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

Report of the Secretary-General

Contents

		Page
I.	Introduction	2
II.	Observations	2
III.	Information received from Governments	5
	Burkina Faso	6
	Cuba	6
	Japan	8
	Qatar	12
	Serbia	12

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to requests contained in General Assembly resolutions 64/37, 64/53 and 64/55.

2. In paragraph 5 of resolution 64/37, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war (see A/56/400, para. 3), and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 55/2), to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

3. In paragraph 22 of resolution 64/53, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the resolution.

4. In paragraph 3 of resolution 64/55, the General Assembly requested all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requested the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its sixty-fifth session.

II. Observations

5. The past year signified an important turning point in international efforts to achieve the universal objective of a world free of nuclear weapons. There has been some progress related to reducing the total number of deployed nuclear weapons, increased transparency, an endeavour to diminish the role and significance of nuclear weapons in security policies and the building of political support for a process leading to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, including by means of a nuclear weapons convention or a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification. Consensus agreements, however, continued to elude forums for the development of new international law relating to the constraint and elimination of nuclear weapons, potentially limiting the opportunities of the international community to consolidate and carry forward the prevailing political momentum for nuclear disarmament. However, political impetus continues to exist for the achievement of interim measures, including de-alerting, reducing and eliminating non-strategic nuclear weapons, consolidating legal norms against the threat or use of nuclear weapons including by means of further articulating the norms of international humanitarian law, establishing universal legally binding commitments against the threat or use of nuclear weapons in all circumstances and a legally binding commitment to end the production of fissile materials for use in nuclear weapons.

6. Major civil society, intergovernmental and other initiatives aimed at achieving a world free of nuclear weapons contributed significant political momentum. These included, inter alia, the release of the report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament on 15 December 2009, the release of an action plan by the Global Zero campaign and the premiere in early 2010 of the

film *Countdown to Zero*, the efforts of Mayors for Peace and many other organizations around the world in seeking the negotiation of a nuclear weapons convention, the active participation of parliamentarians in nuclear disarmament efforts and the renewed engagement of international organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross. Following from the 2007 article published in *The Wall Street Journal* by former statesmen from the United States of America, additional editorials in support of a world free of nuclear weapons were published by former statesmen in Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden. While support for nuclear disarmament remains publicly popular globally and has continued to dramatically increase among the ranks of parliamentarians, civic leaders, former high-ranking government officials, retired military officers and other prominent public figures, including high-level political commitment to nuclear disarmament, rapid progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons has not yet become central to planning in all levels of government among the States that possess nuclear weapons.

7. On 8 April 2010 in Prague, President Medvedev of the Russian Federation and President Obama of the United States of America signed the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms. Some nuclear-weapon States and other relevant States have supported and undertaken measures related to reducing the role and significance of nuclear weapons in their military and security concepts, doctrines and policies. The Russian Federation in its 2010 Military Doctrine and the United States of America in its 2010 Nuclear Posture Review announced welcome reductions in the scenarios in which the threat or use of nuclear weapons would be envisaged. Some nuclear-weapon States have enacted new transparency measures and have publicly reported the total number of deployed and non-deployed nuclear weapons in their national arsenals. Despite these steps, the number of nuclear weapons in national arsenals remains in the many thousands, including thousands of warheads maintained on high-alert status and capable of launch within minutes. Several nuclear-weapon States remain committed to the doctrine of nuclear deterrence based on the contemplated first use of nuclear weapons and are not prepared to make changes to their security postures or use doctrines that would enable further measures related to de-alerting, reducing the infrastructure and expenditures dedicated to nuclear weapons and reducing and eliminating their nuclear arsenals.

8. The goal of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation has also been advanced by several major international meetings and conferences:

(a) The Security Council, during its summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament of 24 September 2009, in which it adopted by consensus resolution 1887 (2009), underlined the need to pursue further efforts in the sphere of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and called for several measures in this regard. The Secretary-General has called for the Security Council to meet annually to discuss nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

(b) The sixth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty convened in New York from 24 to 25 September 2009 and adopted specific and practical measures to promote the entry into force of the Treaty. The large number of high-level participants attending the Conference added significant momentum to the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts;

(c) The nuclear security summit, convened by the United States of America from 12 to 13 April 2010 in Washington D.C., adopted a workplan containing concrete steps to be taken to enhance nuclear security and to prevent non-State actors from acquiring nuclear or radiological materials and sources;

(d) The international conference entitled, "Nuclear energy for all, nuclear weapons for none", convened in Tehran from 17 to 18 April 2010 addressed disarmament challenges, the obligations of States and the proliferation consequences of the continued existence of weapons of mass destruction, and practical steps toward the materialization of disarmament;

(e) On 19 April 2010, the President of the General Assembly convened a thematic debate entitled, "Disarmament and world security: challenges for the international community and the role of the United Nations", which addressed strengthening multilateral commitments regarding weapons of mass destruction and enhancing security through the regulation of arms;

(f) On 30 April 2010 the Second Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia was convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Conference concluded with the adoption of an outcome document that outlines measures to strengthen the nuclear-weapon-free zone regimes, contributes to the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation process and explores cooperation to promote the achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

(g) The eighth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons convened in New York from 3 to 28 May 2010. The Review Conference concluded with the adoption of a Final Document that included a substantive review of the operation of the Treaty, based on the understanding of the President of the Conference on the matters pertaining to review and agreed conclusions and recommendations, covering the three pillars of the Treaty — nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy — as well as implementation of the 1995 NPT Resolution on the Middle East and other regional issues. The action plan on nuclear disarmament includes concrete steps for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In particular, it sets high but realistic benchmarks for steps to be taken over the next five years and establishes processes to achieve further progress towards a world free of nuclear weapons. Agreement on specific measures to implement the 1995 NPT Resolution on the Middle East was essential to the success of the 2010 Review Conference;

(h) The international conference on problems of disarmament in Central Asia and the Caspian Sea Basin convened from 20 to 25 June 2010, where participants discussed a consolidated, coordinated and comprehensive approach to address general security issues facing the region.

9. Progress continued to be slow or stagnant, however, on other aspects of the nuclear disarmament process. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty still lacks the ratifications required for it to enter into force. The recent ratification of the Treaty by additional States as well as the expressions of intent to ratify by two States listed in annex 2 of the Treaty, however, are welcome developments.

10. The achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world is considered by some nuclear-weapon States to require the creation of pre-conditions to enable further progress, including achieving regional peace and stability, establishing higher

standards of confidence in compliance with nuclear non-proliferation obligations and achieving general and complete disarmament. Nuclear-weapon States have undertaken or continue to make major investments in modernizing their nuclear arsenals, their delivery systems and their related research and development infrastructure and have continued to research, develop and deploy new nuclear weapons with new military capabilities.

11. The Conference on Disarmament, during its 2009 session, was unable to implement its decision on a programme of work (CD/1864), adopted on 29 May 2009, and the Conference has not been able to start work on the basis of an agreed programme of work during its 2010 session. In his statement to the opening meeting of the 2010 session of the Conference, the Secretary-General urged the members of the Conference to put aside differences and focus on the global interest, in particular, the compelling need for binding legal norms and the vital role of the Conference in building them. The inability of the Conference on Disarmament to begin substantive negotiations on the basis of an agreed programme of work has led Member States to increasingly question the relevance of the Conference as the sole multilateral forum for the negotiation of disarmament agreements and to look towards other forums to advance disarmament objectives. In the agreed action plan of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, States parties invited the Secretary-General to convene a high-level meeting in September 2010 in support of the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

12. The Disarmament Commission, convening in April 2010 for the second part of its three-year cycle, continued its deliberations on two of its agenda items: recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; and elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, as mandated by the General Assembly. The Commission will need to conclude its deliberations of all items on its agenda, which also includes practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons, during its 2011 substantive session.

13. The Secretary-General and the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs have continued their efforts to promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation globally through direct interaction with Governments, civil society and parliamentarians, advocacy and other outreach activities, authoring articles, editorials and letters. In his remarks to the informal session of the General Assembly on 11 January 2010, the Secretary-General declared progress towards a nuclear-weapon-free world as one of his seven strategic priorities for 2010. On 8 December 2009, the Secretary-General presented an action plan for nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which elaborated upon his five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament.

III. Information received from Governments

14. By a note verbale dated 26 February 2010, all Member States were invited to inform the Secretary-General by 31 May 2010 of the efforts and measures they had taken with regard to the implementation of resolution 64/55, concerning the follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*. To date, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Japan, Qatar and Serbia have sent replies, the texts of which are reproduced below. Additional replies received from Member States will be issued as addendums to the present report.

Burkina Faso

[Original: French]
[14 June 2010]

1. Burkina Faso has ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

2. Burkina Faso has acceded to the Treaty of Pelindaba, establishing an African nuclear-weapon-free zone and to the Hague International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation. Accession by Burkina Faso to these important instruments reflects its firm commitment to a vision of a world without nuclear weapons.

3. Efforts by Burkina Faso to combat proliferation and to secure a comprehensive nuclear test ban are guided by the following core principles:

- To prevent threats to peace;
- To contribute to collective efforts to create a safer world and a fairer world order founded on the rules of international law;
- To advocate an end to the arms race;
- To support efforts to bring about general and complete disarmament.

4. Burkina Faso has created a national mechanism which includes:

- An atomic energy technical secretariat;
- A national authority responsible for implementation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;
- A national radiation protection and nuclear safety body.

5. Burkina Faso has always supported the right of all countries to make use of nuclear energy for peaceful civilian purposes in the context of their socio-economic development. At the same time, it is opposed to the development of nuclear programmes for military purposes and to attempts to acquire weapons of mass destruction.

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]
[14 May 2010]

1. Nuclear non-proliferation, while important, is not an end in itself but rather a means of achieving the ultimate, supreme goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only sure way of avoiding the catastrophic consequences of their use.

2. Under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the nuclear-weapon States, like other parties to the Treaty, are obliged to pursue negotiations with a view to nuclear disarmament.

3. At present, there are some 23,300 nuclear weapons, 12,000 of which are ready for immediate use. The very existence of such weapons and of so-called doctrines of nuclear deterrence produces a global climate of instability and insecurity. The only

way to prevent future nuclear catastrophes is to completely eliminate and permanently ban nuclear weapons.

4. The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons is unquestionably an historic document in the nuclear weapons sphere and constitutes an important legal precedent which requires appropriate follow-up.

5. Paragraph E of the advisory opinion states that: "the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict, and in particular the principles and rules of humanitarian law".

6. The advisory opinion makes it clear that the nuclear-weapon States have a legal obligation not just to pursue but also to conclude in good faith negotiations aimed at achieving complete nuclear disarmament under a strict and effective system of international control.

7. Cuba sees the commitments regarding the reduction of strategic nuclear weapons made by the Governments of the Russian Federation and the United States in April 2010 as a positive sign and believes that these commitments should be made irreversible and internationally verifiable through the signing of a legally binding instrument. It also considers that such commitments should not promote a generalized sense of complacency or divert attention away from our ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament.

8. In that connection, we regret the lack of real progress towards fulfilling the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament and the fact that, since the 2000 Review Conference, there have been serious setbacks to the implementation of that commitment.

9. The States parties to the Treaty should make a firm commitment to the implementation of all of its provisions and of the 13 practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement Article VI of the Treaty, particularly an unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament.

10. Historically, Cuba has supported the establishment of an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament within the Conference on Disarmament. As a member of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, Cuba has called for the achievement of that objective and, in that connection, for the immediate commencement of negotiations on a phased programme for the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specific time frame, including a convention on nuclear weapons.

11. Cuba is prepared to undertake this exercise and is of the view that the inflexible position of some nuclear Powers is continuing to prevent the Conference on Disarmament from establishing an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament.

12. Likewise, Cuba is in favour of beginning negotiations within the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Cuba is of the opinion that this treaty should represent a new step towards achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and, accordingly, that it must contain both non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament measures.

13. Cuba supports the establishment within the Conference on Disarmament of an ad hoc committee mandated with negotiating a treaty similar to that described in the preceding paragraph, in the context of the adoption of a programme of work for the Conference which accurately reflects the legitimate interests and priorities of all its member countries.

14. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, a legally binding international instrument must be concluded, as a matter of priority, whereby nuclear-weapon States commit not to use or threaten to use such weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States. The Conference on Disarmament would be an appropriate forum for the negotiation and adoption of such an instrument.

15. Cuba is a State party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to the international treaties on the prohibition of chemical and biological weapons. Year after year in the United Nations General Assembly, Cuba has supported many resolutions which, directly or indirectly, call for compliance with the objective of nuclear disarmament.

Japan

[Original: English]
[27 May 2010]

I. Commitment to the three non-nuclear principles

1. The Government of Japan continues to firmly commit itself to the "three non-nuclear principles", which describe the policy of not possessing, not producing and not permitting the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan. Successive Cabinets of Japan, including the incumbent cabinet under Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, have repeatedly articulated that Japan will continue to uphold these principles.

II. Submission of resolutions on nuclear disarmament to the United Nations General Assembly

2. Every year since 1994, the Government of Japan has submitted its resolutions on nuclear disarmament to the United Nations General Assembly.

3. In 2009, taking into consideration the recent international situation surrounding nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, Japan once again submitted its draft resolution on nuclear disarmament to the United Nations General Assembly. On 2 December 2009, the draft resolution was adopted at the plenary session of the United Nations General Assembly by an overwhelming majority of 171 votes in favour.

4. Although the situation surrounding nuclear disarmament remains challenging, in response to the political will of a large majority of the international community, which was expressed through the adoption of this resolution, Japan intends to pursue its various diplomatic efforts to maintain and reinforce the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime based on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

III. Efforts for the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

5. Japan attaches great importance to the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), which constitutes one of the major pillars of the NPT regime. Japan's initiative to promote the entry into force of the CTBT was introduced by Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada at the Sixth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT in September 2009, to intensify Japan's efforts to engage with Annex II States that have not yet signed or ratified the treaty by taking every opportunity, including meetings between heads of States to accelerate our efforts to advance the establishment of the International Monitoring System (IMS) and to cooperate with States concerned in the area of maintenance of International Monitoring System facilities. In accordance with the initiative, Japan has made various efforts, including the following:

6. Prime Minister Hatoyama, when he visited India in December 2009, raised and discussed the CTBT issue with his Indian counterpart and as a result the Joint Statement by both Prime Ministers issued afterwards included a reference to the CTBT.

7. To promote the early ratification by the Annex II States as well as to promote the establishment of the IMS, in March 2010, the Government of Japan invited government officials from two non-ratification States to visit facilities of the IMS hosted by Japan and to exchange views on the treaty with relevant Japanese authorities.

8. As its technical assistance to developing countries in supporting the development of the IMS, from January to March 2010, Japan invited 11 administrative officers from various countries, who are expected to play a role in a global seismological network for nuclear tests, to attend its global seismological observation training course in order to have opportunities to acquire knowledge and advanced techniques of global seismological observation.

IV. Activities in preparation for the commencement of fissile material cut-off treaty negotiations

9. The Government of Japan gives emphasis to the importance and urgency of the commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty. Japan has been making its utmost efforts to break the current stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament, thereby realizing the early commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty. Japan contributed at the Conference on Disarmament together with other countries to the adoption of the programme of work in May 2009 that included the decision to negotiate a fissile material cut-off treaty. In August 2009, Japan hosted a seminar on a fissile material cut-off treaty in Geneva, together with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), inviting experts from the International Panel on Fissile Materials and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). In September 2009, Japan together with Canada and the Netherlands, submitted to the Conference on Disarmament as an official document the document prepared by the International Panel on Fissile Materials entitled "A treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, with article-by-article explanations" in

order to provide the Member States of the Conference on Disarmament with useful reference material in the prospective negotiations of a fissile material cut-off treaty.

10. It is regrettable that, since the adoption of a programme of work in 2009, the actual negotiations have yet to start. Japan appealed to relevant States of the Conference on Disarmament members to agree to commence negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty without delay on a number of occasions, including at the foreign ministerial level. In October 2009, Minister for Foreign Affairs Okada visited Pakistan and discussed with his counterpart on possible cooperation for the early commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty.

V. Contribution to the 2010 NPT review process

11. On March 23, the Government of Japan and the Government of Australia submitted a new package of practical nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measures for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to the office of the United Nations Secretary-General as a working paper for the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

12. This package was confirmed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of both countries as a follow-up item in the Joint Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Australia and Japan released at the Ministers' meeting (held in Perth, Australia), entitled "Toward a world without nuclear weapons". The package is the result of serious considerations of both Governments while referencing the report of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament.

13. The International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament was launched in September 2008 as a joint initiative between the Governments of Japan and Australia and as an independent enterprise involving various eminent individuals, and published a report in December 2009 with action-oriented recommendations and agendas, including "A New International Consensus on Action for Nuclear Disarmament", which has been submitted to the 2010 NPT Review Conference for its reference.

VI. Cooperation for denuclearization in Russia

14. At the Kananaskis summit in June 2002, Group of Eight (G8) leaders announced the G-8 Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues. The Government of Japan committed itself, for the purpose of this Partnership, to a contribution amounting to over 200 million United States dollars, out of which $100 million is to be allocated to the G-8 disposition programme of Russian surplus weapons-grade plutonium and the rest to projects for dismantling decommissioned Russian nuclear submarines. Since then Japan has extended cooperation to Russia and completed the dismantlement of six decommissioned nuclear submarines. Furthermore, based on the decision in 2006, Japan's preparation has been made for cooperation for the construction of an on-shore storage facility for reactor compartments at Razboynik Bay.

15. Building on the dismantlement of six decommissioned nuclear submarines in the Russian far east by the end of 2009, Japan is considering additional areas for bilateral cooperation.

VII. Efforts to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education

16. Since 1983, Japan has invited more than 700 participants in the United Nations disarmament fellowship programme to Japan, including the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This has provided these young officials, who will be responsible for future disarmament diplomacy, with an opportunity to witness the horrendous and long-lasting consequences caused by atomic bombs. Japan will continue to contribute to this programme.

17. Japan believes that the international community should be well informed of the destructive effects of nuclear weapons. In accordance with the wish of the people of Japan that such weapons never be used again, the Government of Japan has supported, on a number of occasions, the efforts of local governments and NGOs in foreign countries to organize exhibitions relating to atomic bombs.

18. In the margins of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 NPT Review Conference in 2009, Japan hosted a disarmament and non-proliferation education seminar on practical ways and tools to raise public awareness through education and its role in strengthening the NPT. The picture book related to the experience of the atomic bombing, On That Summer Day, was distributed to participants at the conference.

19. Within the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Niigata, Japan, a session on the role of civil society and mass media was held with prominent educators in August 2009.

20. Japan submitted a joint working paper with the United Nations University, entitled "Promoting cooperation with civil society towards a world without nuclear weapons" for the 2010 NPT Review Conference, including proposals such as holding a global forum on disarmament and non-proliferation education that brings together civil society and Governments and employing modern technologies to digitally record Hibakusha's testimonies and to disseminate them to future generations. Japan also delivered a joint statement on disarmament and non-proliferation education on behalf of 42 countries at the 2010 NPT Review Conference Main Committee I.

21. Japan hosted a reception and concert together with the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations on 3 May 2010, the first day of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, in honour of the Hibakusha (people who survived the 1945 atomic bombings of Japan) and their work with young people to raise awareness of the dangers of nuclear weapons.

Qatar

[Original: English]
[7 April 2010]

1. The State of Qatar is among the countries that adopted General Assembly resolution 64/55 on 2 December 2009. It also joined the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as well as the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban. Similarly, the State of Qatar is against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and urges nuclear countries to start negotiations with a view to reaching the goal of nuclear disarmament.

2. The State of Qatar strongly supports the efforts geared towards making the Middle East a region free of weapons of mass destruction.

Serbia

[Original: English]
[31 May 2010]

1. The Republic of Serbia has acceded to all major international instruments relating to nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). It is in strict compliance with all its relevant international obligations and consistently implements its policy on the non-proliferation and prohibition of the development, production, testing, stockpiling and the use of all kinds of weapons of mass destruction. An important role in this process is played by an effective implementation of foreign trade control measures under the Law on Foreign Trade in Weapons, Military Equipment and Dual-Use Goods.

2. Bearing in mind the conclusion of the International Court of Justice regarding the existence of an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control, Serbia has strongly supported all efforts in the field of nuclear disarmament. It has also supported all relevant activities of the United Nations and other international actors aimed at strengthening the international nuclear non-proliferation regime to ensure its effective implementation. Accordingly, Serbia is fully committed to a consistent implementation of its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and has taken, at the national level, comprehensive measures for the implementation of this Treaty.